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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/006,538	11/30/2001	Huy P. Nguyen	PALM-3778	9994

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WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO LLP
Two North Market Street
Third Floor
San Jose, CA 95113

EXAMINER

FOULADI SEMNANI, FARANAK

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2672

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DATE MAILED: 08/27/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/006,538

Applicant(s)

NGUYEN ET AL.

Examiner

Faranak Fouladi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 November 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 April 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 7.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: application, filed on 11/30/01; IDS, filed on 5/23/03.
2. Claims 1-24 are pending in the case, with claims 1, 8, 16 and 21 being independent.
3. The present title of the application is "Handheld computer having moveable segments that are interactive with an integrated display" (as originally filed).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1-7, 10, 11, 16-20 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
5. Claim 1 recites the limitation "the relative position" in line 7. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
6. Claim 3 recites the limitation "the initiation" in line 3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
7. Claim 4 recites the limitation "the initiation" in line 3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
8. Claim 10 recites the limitation "the execution" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

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9. Claim 11 recites the limitation "the display" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

10. Claim 16 recites the limitation "the visual output" in line 4; and
recites the limitation "the relative position" in line 6; and
recites the limitation "said sliding cover" in line 6; and
recites the limitation "said processor module" in line 7.

There is insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.

11. Claim 19 recites the limitation "said signal" in line 3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

12. Claim 20 recites the limitation "the rearrangement" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

13. Claim 24 is not complete, and it does not recite any limitation.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

14. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

15. Claim 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Iwata et al. U.S. Patent 6,535,749 (hereafter, Iwata).

16. Regarding Independent claim 1, "a handheld computer comprising: a processor module comprising a processor and a display; a sliding display cover moveably coupled to said processor module; a sensing device coupled to said processor module and to said sliding display cover for providing a signal regarding the relative position of said processor module with respect to said sliding display cover; and, a device driver for performing an action in response to said signal." Iwata discloses "a processor and a display" in col. 13 line 7 and line 12-15 and in Fig. 3; and disclose "a sliding display cover moveably coupled to said processor module" in col. 8 line 35; also discloses "a sensing device coupled to said processor module and to said sliding display cover for providing a signal regarding the relative position of said processor module with respect to said sliding display cover" in col. 5 line 63-64; and further discloses "a device driver for performing an action in response to said signal" in col. 64-67.

17. Regarding dependent claim 2, "the handheld computer of claim 1, wherein said action is a visual configuration of said display." Iwata disclose in col. 5 line 63-64.

18. Regarding dependent claim 3, "the handheld computer of claim 1, further

comprising a wireless transmitter, and wherein said action is the initiation of communication with another device using said wireless transmitter."

Iwata disclose in Fig. 3 a "*radio transmission*" which is interpreted to be "wireless transmitter" and further Iwata disclose "wherein said action is the initiation of communication with another device using said wireless transmitter." in col. Col. 1 line 42-56 by stating "*Telephone keyboard 6 for dialing keys is placed on the top of cover 7 installed on a mobile information terminal equipment body 1.*

Electronic note Keyboard 8 for character data input keys is installed from the back of cover 7 to the area covered by cover 7. A telephone mode and an electronic note mode are switched based on the output from a cover switch 9, which detects the opened/closed status of cover 7. When the cover is closed, the telephone mode is set, enabling the user to use the equipment as a regular mobile telephone. Meanwhile, the electronic note mode is set as the cover is opened, thus allowing the user to use it as an ordinary electronic note."

19. Regarding dependent claim 4, "the handheld computer of claim 1, further

comprising a wireless transmitter, and wherein said action is the initiation of communication with an external device, using said wireless transmitter." Iwata disclose in col.1 line 42-56.

20. Regarding dependent claim 5, "the handheld computer of claim 1, wherein said sensing device is a non-contact sensor device." Iwata disclose in col. 28 line 59-60 by stating "*a means for detecting the door opened/closed*" and therefore sensing device could be a non-contact sensor device.

21. Regarding dependent claim 6, "the handheld computer of claim 1, wherein said display is a touch panel display forming a part of said sensing device." Iwata disclose in col. 29 line 63-65.

22. Regarding dependent claim 7, "the handheld computer of claim 1, wherein said sliding cover comprises an input device coupled to said processor module." Iwata disclose in col. 1 line 46-48.

23. Claims 8 -10 recite method steps performed by the apparatus of claims 1 and 3; therefore they are similar in scope and rejected under the same rationale.

24. Regarding dependent claim 11, "a method as described in claim 8 wherein said action is the display of related additional information to said portion of said information." Iwata disclose in col. 7 line 34-42 and col. 54-58.

25. Regarding dependent claim 12, "a method as described in claim 8 wherein said selection device is a key." Iwata disclose in col. 8 line 31-35.

26. Regarding dependent claim 13, "a method as described in claim 8 wherein said sliding cover comprises a keyboard." Iwata disclose in col. 1 line 46-48 and col. 22 line 64-65.

27. Regarding dependent claim 14, "a method as described in claim 8 wherein said sliding cover further comprises a microphone." Iwata disclose in col. 8 line 11-16.

28. Regarding dependent claim 15, "a method as described in claim 8 wherein said sliding cover further comprises a speaker." Iwata disclose in col. 8 line 11-16.

29. Claims 16-21 recite a computer readable medium containing executable instructions for executing the method of claims 8-11. It is inherent to have a medium configured to store or transport computer readable code in a computer system. For example compact disc has been included and used in the computer systems since 1990s or magnetic data storage devices have been used since 1980s. Also Iwata disclose a software application included in his handheld computer in col. 30 lines 58 – col. 31 line 10.

30. Regarding independent claim 21, "an integrated handheld computer and wireless telephone comprising: a processor module comprising a processor, a display, and a speaker; a keypad module comprising a keypad and a microphone, wherein said keypad module is slideably coupled to said processor module and

operable to selectively cover a portion of said display.” Iwata disclose in col. 1 line 29- col. 2 line 4.

31.Regarding dependent claim 22, “the integrated handheld computer and wireless telephone of claim 21, wherein said keypad module is optically coupled to said processor module.” Iwata disclose in col. 1 line 45-48.

32.Regarding dependent claim 23, “the integrated handheld computer and wireless telephone of claim 21, wherein said keypad module is coupled to said processor module by a flexible ribbon connector.” Iwata disclose in col. 1 line 45-48.

Conclusion

33.Any this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should inquiry concerning be directed to **Faranak Fouladi** whose telephone number is **703-305-3223**. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 8:00-4:30.

34.If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, **Michael Razavi** can be reach at **703-305-4713**.

35.**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks


Washington, DC. 20231

Or faxed to: 703-872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

36. Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, sixth-floor (Receptionist).

37. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is 703-872-9306.

Faranak Fouladi-Semnani
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2672



MICHAEL RAZAVI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600